
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON H.R. 2419

Title IV – Nutrition Programs

**Section-by-Section Comparison of House Bill,
Senate Amendment, and Current Law**

Item		CURRENT LAW	HOUSE BILL (H.R. 2419)	SENATE AMENDMENT	CONF. AGREEMENT
T4-1	<p><u>Renaming the Food Stamp Program</u></p> <p>Sec. 4001 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4001 and Sec. 4909 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>The Food Stamp Act (FSA) establishes the Food Stamp Program.</p>	<p>SEC. 4001. Amends the FSA by renaming the Food Stamp Program the <u>Secure Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program</u> (SSNAP). Makes conforming amendments to other laws, documents, and records that reference either the Food Stamp Act or Food Stamp Program.</p>	<p>SEC. 4001. Amends the short title of the FSA by renaming the Act the <i>Food and Nutrition Act of 2007</i>. Amends the renamed Food and Nutrition Act of 2007 to change the term “food stamp program” each place it appears to “food and nutrition program”.</p> <p>SEC. 4909. Makes conforming amendments to other laws that reference the Food Stamp Act/program.</p>	
T4-2	<p><u>Definition of Drug Addiction or Alcoholic Treatment and Rehabilitation Program</u></p> <p>Sec. 4002 of H.R. 2419</p>	<p>Sec. 3(f) of the FSA defines “drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program” to mean a tax-exempt private or public program that is conducted under the auspices of Part B of Title XIX of the Public Health Service Act and provides treatment that can lead to the rehabilitation of drug addicts or alcoholics. Residential substance abuse programs may receive or transact food stamp benefits on their clients’ behalf.</p>	<p>SEC. 4002. Amends section 3(f) of the FSA by mandating that drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation programs meet the FSA’s definition regarding such programs if the State Title XIX agency certifies that: the program is eligible to receive funds under Part B of Title XIX of the Public Health Service Act (even if no funds are being received); or is operating to further the purposes of Part B.</p> <p>Provides that nothing in the FSA’s definition of a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program is to be construed as requiring State or Federal licensure.</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	
T4-3	<p><u>Nutrition Education</u></p> <p>Sec. 4003 of H.R. 2419 and Sec. 4213 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 4(a) of the Food Stamp Act (FSA) authorizes the Secretary, subject to available appropriated funds, to formulate and administer a Food Stamp Program, at the request of the State agency, under which eligible households in the State are to be provided with the opportunity to obtain a more nutritious diet through the issuance to them of Food Stamp allotment.</p>	<p>SEC. 4003. Amends Sections 4(a) of the FSA by authorizing the Secretary, subject to appropriated funds, in administering the food stamp program and nutrition education to eligible households.</p> <p>Amends section 11(f) of the FSA by <i>specifically</i> giving State agencies the discretion to implement nutrition education programs that promote healthy food choices that are consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for individuals who receive or are eligible for program benefits.</p>	<p>SEC. 4213. Same as House bill, with technical differences.</p>	

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		<p>Sec. 11(f) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to assign responsibility for the nutrition education of individuals eligible for food stamps, or for the Food Distribution on Indian Reservation Program (FDPIR), to the Cooperative Extension Service, in cooperation with the Food and Nutrition Service. State agencies are authorized to encourage food stamp recipients to participate in the expanded food and nutrition education program conducted under section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act and any program established under section 1584 through 1588 of the Food Security Act of 1985.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>States may claim a 50% federal matching payment for the cost of nutrition education programs.</p>	<p>States are given the discretion to deliver nutrition education directly to eligible recipients through agreements with the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, and other State and community health and nutrition providers and organizations.</p> <p>States wishing to provide nutrition education must submit a plan that identifies the uses of the funding for local projects and conforms to standards set forth by the Secretary in regulations or guidance.</p> <p>States must, whenever practicable, notify applicants, participants, and eligible program participants of the availability of nutrition education.</p> <p>Federal match is continued.</p>		
T4-4	<u>Food Distribution on Indian</u>	Sec. 4(b) of the FSA authorizes the distribution of commodities (in lieu of food stamp benefits) whenever a request for	SEC. 4004. Amends Section 4 of the FSA by permitting the distribution of commodities, with or	SEC. 4501. Similar to the House bill with technical differences and:	

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	<p><u>Reservations</u></p> <p>Sec. 4004 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4501 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>concurrent or separate food program operation is made by an Indian tribal organization determined to be capable of administering the benefits. The program has been named the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).</p> <p>The appropriate State agency is to be responsible for the distribution unless the Secretary determines that the tribal organization is capable of effectively and efficiently administering the distribution – in that case, the tribal organization is allowed to administer the distribution.</p> <p>The Secretary is prohibited from approving a commodity distribution plan that permits a household on an Indian reservation to simultaneously participate in the Food Stamp Program and the FDPIR program.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>without the Secure Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, on Indian reservations whenever a request is made for concurrent or separate food program operations by a tribal organization.</p> <p>Continues to allow tribal organizations to be responsible for the commodity distribution should the Secretary determine that they are capable to do so.</p> <p>Continues the prohibition from approving plans that permit households to simultaneously participate in the SSNAP and FDPIR programs.</p> <p>An appropriation of \$5 million is authorized for fiscal years 2008 through 2012 for a traditional and local foods fund to distribute traditional and locally-grown foods, designated by region, on Indian reservations and requires that at least 50 percent of the food distributed through the fund to be produced by Native American farmers, ranchers, and producers.</p> <p>Requires the Secretary to submit a report to Congress on the FDPIR food package. The report is to include a description of the process for determining the contents of the food package, the extent to which the package conforms to the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, the extent to which the food package addresses nutritional and health challenges specific to Native Americans and the nutritional needs of Native Americans, and plans to revise the food package (or any rationale for not revising it).</p>	<p>(1) Provides that, subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may purchase bison meat for distribution through FDPIR.</p> <p>(2) Requires Secretary to survey participants to determine which traditional foods are most desired.</p> <p>(3) No comparable provision to House requirement that at least 50 percent of the food distributed through the fund be produced by Native American farmers, ranchers, and producers.</p>	
T4-5	<p><u>Excluding Combat Related Pay from Countable Income</u></p>	<p>Sec. 5(d) of the FSA allows eligible households to exclude certain income for purposes of determining food stamp eligibility and benefits. Under the Food Stamp Act,</p>	<p>SEC. 4005. Amends Sec. 5(d) of the FSA by specifically excluding combat-related military pay when determining income for program eligibility and</p>	<p>SEC. 4101. Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p>	

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	<p>Sec. 4005 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4101 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>military combat pay is not an eligible exclusion.</p> <p>[Note: Congress has enacted laws that provide for the exclusion of combat-related military pay in each fiscal year since fiscal year 2005. Such provisions have been included in agriculture appropriations legislation. Currently, combat pay can be excluded through the end of fiscal year 2008].</p>	<p>benefits.</p>		
<p>T4-6</p>	<p><u>Increasing the Standard Deduction</u></p> <p>Sec. 4006 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4102 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 5(e)(1) of the FSA requires a minimum standard deduction for each applicant or participant household. This standard deduction is subtracted from households' countable monthly income when determining eligibility and benefits.</p> <p>The minimum standard deduction must not be less than: \$134 a month for the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia); \$229 (for Alaska); \$189 (for Hawaii); \$118 (for the Virgin Islands); and \$269 (for Guam); or 8.31% of the annually indexed federal income poverty guidelines for the household's size, whichever is higher.</p>	<p>SEC. 4006. Amends Sec. 5(e)(1) of the FSA by increasing the minimum standard deduction and index it for inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U).</p> <p>The minimum standard deduction is raised to: \$145 (for the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia); \$248 (for Alaska); \$205 (for Hawaii) \$128 (for the Virgin Islands);, and \$291 (for Guam).</p> <p>The alternative minimum of 8.31% of the poverty guidelines is not changed.</p> <p>On October 1, 2008 (and each October thereafter) the minimum dollar-denominated standard deductions (noted above) would be adjusted by the CPI-U change (for all items other than food) over the 12 months ending the previous June 30th (and rounded down to the nearest whole dollar).</p>	<p>SEC. 4102. Amends Sec. 5(e)(1) to increase the minimum <i>standard deduction</i> and index it for inflation as measured by the CPI-U.</p> <p>The minimum standard deduction is raised to \$140 (for the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia), \$239 (for Alaska), \$197 (for Hawaii), \$123 (for the Virgin Islands), and \$281 (for Guam).</p> <p>As in the House bill, the alternative minimum of 8.31% of the poverty guidelines is not changed.</p> <p>As in the House bill, these amounts would be adjusted for annual changes in the CPI-U and rounded down.</p>	

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T4-7	<p align="center"><u>Deducting Dependent Care Expenses</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4007 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4103 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 5(e)(3) of the FSA mandates that dependent care expenses related to employment or training or education for employment be deducted from countable income when determining a household's maximum eligibility and benefits. The deduction is capped at \$200 a month for each dependent under two years of age, and \$175 for each child over two.</p>	<p>SEC. 4007. Amends Sec. 5(e)(3) of the FSA by removing the caps on dependent care deductions.</p>	<p>SEC. 4103. Same as the House bill.</p>	
T4-8	<p align="center"><u>Adjusting Countable Resources for Inflation</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4008 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4104 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 5(g) of the FSA mandates that an eligible household's countable financial resources (liquid assets and non-liquid assets) may not be more than \$2,000; or, in the case of a household with an elderly or disabled member, \$3,000.</p>	<p>SEC. 4008. Amends Sec. 5(g) of the FSA by requiring that the resource (asset) dollar limits for SSNAP households be indexed. Limits would be indexed annually for inflation (measured by the CPI-U) and adjusted to the nearest \$100.</p>	<p>SEC. 4104(a). Amends Sec 5(g) by (1) increasing the dollar limits on financial resources that an eligible household may own to \$3,500 (or \$4,500 for households with elderly or disabled members), and (2) requiring that they be indexed annually for inflation (measured by the CPI-U) and adjusted down to the nearest \$250).</p>	
T4-9	<p align="center"><u>Excluding Education Accounts from Countable Income</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4009 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4104 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 5(g) of the FSA prescribes the types and allowable amounts of financial resources (assets) that an eligible household may own (and those that are to be excluded). Under current law, savings for education are excluded as countable resources (assets).</p>	<p>SEC. 4009. Amends Sec. 5(g) of the FSA by excluding tax-qualified education savings as countable financial resources.</p>	<p>SEC. 4104(c). Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p>	
T4-10	<p align="center"><u>Excluding Retirement Accounts</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4010 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4104 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 5(g) of the FSA prescribes the types and allowable amounts of financial resources (assets) that an eligible household may own—and those that are to be excluded. Under current law, some retirement savings are not excluded as countable resources (assets), such as Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs).</p>	<p>SEC. 4010. Amends Sec. 5(g) by excluding <i>all</i> tax-qualified retirement accounts/savings as countable financial resources.</p>	<p>SEC. 4104(b). Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p>	
T4-	<p align="center"><u>Simplified</u></p>	<p>Sec. 6(c) (1) of the FSA allows States to</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4105.</p>	

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11	<p><u>Reporting</u></p> <p>Sec. 4105 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>require households to file periodic reports of income and household circumstances, but bars periodic reporting requirements for migrant/seasonal farmworker households, homeless households, and those with no earned income where all adult members are elderly or disabled. In lieu of periodic reporting, these households must report any changes in household circumstances when they occur.</p>		<p>Amends Sec. 6(c)(1) to allow States to require periodic reporting of changes in household circumstances (as opposed to reporting changes when they occur) by households with elderly/disabled members, migrant/seasonal farmworker households, and households in which all members are homeless. Limits the frequency with which these households must report changes (other than changes whereby they exceed the program's gross monthly income eligibility limits). Elderly/disabled households with no earned income are required to report no more often than once a year; migrant/seasonal farmworker and homeless households could be required to report no more often than once every 4 months.</p>	
T4-12	<p><u>Deobligate Food Stamp Coupons</u></p> <p>Sec. 4011 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4202 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 7 of the FSA authorizes the issuance of benefits through coupons. The coupons are to be used only to purchase food at retail food stores that have been approved to participate in the Food Stamp Program. This section also allows the use of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) debit cards.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4011.</p> <p>Amends the FSA by prohibiting States from issuing coupons, stamps, certificates or authorization cards effective upon enactment of the Farm Bill.</p> <p>Provides that, effective one year after enactment of the Farm Bill, only Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards will be eligible for exchange at retail food stores that participate in the Secure Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.</p> <p>Provides that coupons will no longer be an obligation of the Federal government effective one year after enactment of the Farm Bill, thereby requiring that coupons be redeemed within that one-year period.</p>	<p>SEC. 4202.</p> <p>Similar to House bill with technical differences and:</p> <p>(1) Directs the Secretary to require a state agency to issue or deliver benefits using alternative methods if the Secretary determines, in consultation with the Inspector General, that it would improve the integrity of the food and nutrition program.</p> <p>(2) Provides that no interchange fees shall apply to electronic benefit transfer transactions under the food and nutrition program.</p> <p>Also makes necessary conforming amendments as in the House bill's Sec. 4001.</p>	
T4-13	<p><u>Eligibility for Single, Unemployed</u></p>	<p>Sec. 6(o) of the FSA limits participation for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) who are not working (20+ hours a week), in an employment/training program</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4107.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 6(o) to lengthen the eligibility period for ABAWDs who are not working or in an employment/training or workfare</p>	

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	<p><u>Adults</u></p> <p>Sec. 4107 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>(20+ hours a week), or in a workfare program to 3 months in every 36-month period. It also allows ABAWDs who gain eligibility by meeting one of the 3 tests noted above, but subsequently fail to meet any of these tests, to remain eligible for an additional 3 consecutive months.</p>		<p>program to 6 months in every 36-month period.</p> <p>Eliminates the current provision of law under which an ABAWD who gains eligibility by meeting one of the 3 work-related tests, but subsequently fails to meet any of them, may remain eligible for an added 3 months.</p> <p>Both of these changes in law are effective October 1, 2008.</p>	
T4-14	<p><u>Transitional Benefits</u></p> <p>Sec. 4108 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 11(s) of the FSA allows states to provide up to 5 months' transitional food assistance benefits to households that cease to receive <i>federally funded</i> cash assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4108. Amends Sec. 11(s) to permit States to provide transitional food assistance benefits to households with children that cease to receive cash assistance under a <i>state-funded</i> public assistance program.</p>	
T4-15	<p><u>Allow for the Accrual of Benefits</u></p> <p>Sec. 4012 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4106 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4012. Amends Sec. 7(i) of the FSA to authorize States to establish procedures for recovering electronically issued benefits from a household due to inactivity in the household's EBT account.</p> <p>States are given discretion to recover benefits if the account has been inactive for: (1) 3 months during which it continuously had a balance greater than \$1,000 (adjusted for inflation); or (2) 12 months -- whichever is less.</p> <p>Provides that a household whose benefits are recovered must receive notice, and have the benefits made available again, upon request, not less than 12 months after their recovery.</p>	<p>SEC. 4106. Amends Sec. 7(i) of the FSA to (1) require that States establish procedures for recovering electronically issued benefits from inactive benefit accounts and allow them to store recovered benefits off-line if the household has not accessed the account after 6 months and (2) require States to expunge benefits that have not been accessed by a household for 12 months.</p> <p>States would also be required to notify households of stored benefits and make them available not later than 48 hours after a household's request.</p>	
T4-16	<p><u>Increasing the Minimum Benefit</u></p> <p>Sec. 4013 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4109 of</p>	<p>Sec. 8(a) of the FSA sets the minimum benefit for one- and two-person eligible households at \$10 per month. No minimum benefit is established in law for larger households.</p>	<p>SEC. 4013. Amends Section 8(a) by increasing the amount of the minimum benefit for one- and two-person households to 10 percent of the inflation-indexed "Thrifty Food Plan" for a one-person household.</p>	<p>SEC. 4109. Same as the House bill, except that the effective date is stipulated as October 1, 2008.</p>	

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	the Senate Amendment				
T4-17	<u>State Option for Telephonic Signature</u> Sec. 4014 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4204 of the Senate Amendment	<p>Sec. 11(e)(2) of the FSA specifies that nothing in the Act prohibits the use of electronic signatures, storage of records using automated retrieval systems, or any other feature of a State’s application system that does not rely exclusively on paper applications or other records. It also provides that an adult’s signature will be sufficient to comply with any signature requirements.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4014. Amends Section 11(e)(2)(C) of the FSA by authorizing State agencies to establish a system for applicant households to sign an application by providing a recorded, verbal assent over the telephone.</p> <p>The requirements for such a system are set, including that the system records the verbal assent, as well as the information to which the assent was given. The State system is required to include safeguards against impersonation and identity theft.</p> <p>A household’s right to apply for food stamps in writing is not precluded.</p> <p>If there are any errors in the application, the applicant must return a copy of the application with instructions for correcting the errors.</p> <p>Provides that applicants must satisfy all requirements associated with a written signature on an application to ensure that the verbal assent triggers the effective date of the submission of the application.</p>	<p>SEC. 4204. Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p>	
T4-18	<u>Technical Clarification Regarding Eligibility</u> Sec. 4201 of the Senate Amendment	<p>Sec. 6(k) of the FSA disqualifies persons fleeing to avoid prosecution, custody, or confinement after conviction for a crime or attempt to commit a crime that is a felony. It also disqualifies those violating a condition of probation or parole.</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4201. Amends Sec. 6(k) to require that the Secretary establish procedures to ensure that States use consistent procedures that disqualify individuals whom law enforcement authorities are actively seeking for the purpose of holding criminal proceedings.</p>	
T4-19	<u>Split Issuance</u>	<p>Sec. 7(h) of the FSA allows states to establish procedures to stagger benefit issuance</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4203. Amends Sec. 7(h) to require that any method</p>	

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	Sec. 4203 of the Senate Amendment	throughout a month.		for staggering the issuance of benefits throughout a month not include splitting any household's monthly benefit into multiple issuances – unless a benefit correction is necessary.	
T4-20	<u>Privacy Protections</u> Sec. 4205 of the Senate Amendment	Sec. 11(e)(8) of the FSA requires that States have safeguards that limit the use of disclosure of information obtained from applicant households to persons connected with program administration or enforcement of program rules.	No comparable provision	SEC. 4205. Amends Sec. 11(e)(8) to clarify rules pertaining to the disclosure of information obtained from applicant households. Bars use of this information by persons having access for any purpose other than program administration/ enforcement activities. Also makes clear that applicants' information may be used to comply with requirements for certifying schoolchildren as eligible for free school meals based on their family's eligibility for food and nutrition assistance program benefits.	
T4-21	<u>Civil Rights Compliance</u> Sec. 4207 of the Senate Amendment	Sec. 11(c) of the FSA provides that, in the certification of applicant households for program benefits, there shall be no discrimination by reason of race, sex, religious creed, national origin, or political beliefs.	No comparable provision	SEC. 4207. Amends Sec. 11(c) to specify in law that administration of the program must be consistent with the rights of households under the Age Discrimination Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and title VI of the Civil Rights Act.	
T4-22	<u>Employment and Training</u> Sec. 4208 of the Senate Amendment	Sec. 6(d)(4) of the FSA requires States to implement employment and training programs for recipients. Limits are placed on the number of hours recipients can participate in these programs.	No comparable provision	SEC. 4208. Amends Sec. 6(d)(4) to include – as an eligible employment and training program activity – job retention services provided (for up to 90 days after securing employment) to individuals who have received other employment/training services under the program. Also amends Sec. 6(d)(4) to permit individuals voluntarily participating in employment and training programs to participate beyond the required maximum of 20 hours a week (or a number of hours based on their benefit divided by the minimum	

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T4-23	<p><u>Codification of Access Rules</u></p> <p>Sec. 4209 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 11(e)(1) of the FSA requires that State plans of operation include provisions for the use of appropriate bilingual personnel and printed materials in administration of the program.</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>wage).</p> <p>SEC. 4209. Amends Sec. 11(e)(1) to clarify that States must comply with the Secretary’s regulations requiring the use of appropriate bilingual personnel and materials.</p>	
T4-24	<p><u>Expanding the Use of EBT at Farmers Markets</u></p> <p>Sec. 4210 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4210. For each of FYs 2008 through 2010, requires the Secretary to make grants to carry out projects to expand the number of farmers’ markets that accept Food and Nutrition program electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards. Grants may not be made for ongoing costs and may only be provided to entities that demonstrate a plan to continue to provide EBT card access. Mandatory funding of \$5 million is provided for these grants.</p>	
T4-25	<p><u>Review of Major Changes in Program Design</u></p> <p>Sec. 4015 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4211 and Sec. 4212 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 11(e)(6) of the FSA requires State agencies to undertake the certification of applicant households in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary and regulations issued pursuant to the FSA.</p> <p>The State agency personnel used in undertaking the certification of applicant households are to be employed with the current standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration or any standards later prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management pursuant to Sec. 208 of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970.</p>	<p>SEC. 4015. Amends section 11(e)(6) of the FSA to specify that only State agency Merit System employees are authorized to:</p> <p>(1) represent the State in any communications with prospective food stamp applicants, food stamp applicants, or recipient households regarding their application of participation in the food stamp program;</p> <p>(2) participate in making determinations regarding a household’s compliance with the requirements of the FSA or its implementing regulations; or</p> <p>(3) make any other determinations required under this subsection.</p> <p>Non-profit agencies that assist low-income individuals and households in applying for SSNAP benefits by helping the individuals and households complete and submit applications are exempted. The non-profit exemption applies to general application assistance, which is currently allowed as a food stamp outreach</p>	<p>SEC. 4211. Amends Sec. 11(a) to clarify State responsibility for program administration (including cases where the program is operated on a county-administered basis) and to require that program records kept to determine whether the State is in compliance with the Act/regulations be available for review in any action filed by a household to enforce the Act/ regulations.</p> <p>Also amends Sec. 11(a) to require the Secretary to develop standards for identifying major changes in State agency operations – e.g., substantial increases in reliance on automated systems, potential increases in administrative burdens placed on applicant or recipient households. Further mandates that, if a State implements a major change in operations, it must notify the Secretary and collect any information the Secretary needs to identify and correct any adverse effects on program integrity or access.</p>	

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		<p>Sec. 17(b)(1)(B)(iv)(III)(ff) of the FSA prohibits State agencies from conducting projects to improve the administration and effectiveness of the food stamp program in delivering nutrition-related benefits that are inconsistent with the application for Food Stamp benefits.</p> <p>Sec. 26(f)(3)(e)) specifies the requirements States are to comply with should they elect to carry out a Simplified Food Stamp Program.</p>	<p>activity, and specialized projects that are operating under a waiver of the Food Stamp Act and its implementing regulations.</p> <p>State agencies are not prohibited from contracting for automated systems or issuance services, or for assistance in verifying an applicant's identity.</p> <p>Funds from any appropriations act are prohibited from being used for implementing or continuing any contract that fails to meet the specifications regarding State Merit System employees.</p> <p>State agencies are prohibited from: (a) using Federal funds to perform or carry out contracts that fail to comply with the specifications regarding State Agency Merit System employees; or (b) paying any cost associated with the termination, breach, or full or partial abrogation of any contact that does not comply with the specifications regarding State Merit System employees.</p> <p>State agencies are prohibited from conducting projects that comply with the specifications regarding State Agency Merit System employees.</p> <p>State agencies are prohibited from privatizing food stamp eligibility determinations via the simplified food stamp program.</p> <p>The Secretary of Agriculture may authorize a State agency, on a temporary basis, to use non-Merit State employees to determine eligibility for a disaster SSNAP program.</p>		

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		<p>Sec. 5(h) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary, during the duration of an emergency, to establish temporary emergency standards for food stamp program eligibility for households who are victims of an emergency which disrupts the commercial channels of food distribution.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>States have 120 days to bring any activities inconsistent with this provision into compliance.</p>		
T4-26	<p><u>Preservation of Access and Payment Accuracy</u></p> <p>Sec. 4212 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 16(g) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to pay 50 percent of the costs of automatic data processing and information retrieval systems.</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>Sec. 4212. Amends Sec. 16(g) of the FSA to require that computerized systems for State program operations receiving federal matching payments must (1) be tested adequately before and after implementation (including through pilot projects evaluated by the Secretary), and (2) be operated under a plan for continuous updating (to reflect changed policy and circumstances) and testing (for effects on households and payment accuracy).</p>	
T4-27	<p><u>Grants for Simple Application and Eligibility Determination Systems and Improved Access to Benefits</u></p> <p>Sec. 4016 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 11(t) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to make grants available to pay the costs for eligible entities to develop and implement: simple food stamp application and eligibility determinations; or, measures to improve access to benefits by eligible households.</p> <p>Sec. 11(t)(1) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to use, for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2007, not more than \$5 million of the money authorized to be appropriated to carry out the FSA to fund the grant program.</p>	<p>SEC. 4016. No changes made to the Secretary's authority to make grants.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 11(t)(1) of the FSA by extending the grant program through FY2012.</p>	<p>See subsection (a) of SEC. 4801. Amends section 11(t) of the Food and Nutrition Act to permanently extend the authority provided under that section.</p>	
T4-28	<p><u>Civil Money Penalties and Disqualification of Retail Food Stores and Wholesale Food Concerns</u></p>	<p>Sec. 12 of the FSA provides that a retail store that is approved to participate in the Food Stamp Program can be disqualified from participation, or subject to a civil money penalty of up to \$10,000 for each violation of the FSA or its regulations.</p>	<p>SEC. 4017. Amends section 12 of the FSA by increasing the civil money penalties for retail stores and wholesale food concerns to \$100,000 for each violation of the FSA or its regulations. Removes the requirement that a determination as to the assessment of civil money penalties be based on whether there would be hardship</p>	<p>SEC. 4303. Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p> <p>Also amends Sec. 12 to generally ease the conditions under which bonds are required of violating food concerns wishing to be re-approved for participation. The Secretary</p>	

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	<p>Sec. 4017 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4303 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>The disqualification is to be:</p> <p>(1) for a <u>first violation</u>, for not less than 6 months nor more than 5 years;</p> <p>(2) for a <u>second violation</u>, for not less than 10 months and nor more than 10 years;</p> <p>(3) <u>permanent</u> upon:</p> <p>(a) a third disqualification incident;</p> <p>(b) a disqualification based on the purchase of coupons or trafficking in coupons or authorization cards—a civil money penalty can be imposed when the Secretary determines by substantial evidence that the retail food store or wholesale food concern had an effective policy and program in place in an effort to prevent violations.</p> <p>(c) a finding of the sale of firearms, ammunition, explosives, or controlled substance for coupons— a civil money penalty can be imposed when the Secretary determines by substantial evidence that the retail food store or wholesale food concern had an effective policy and program in place in an effort to prevent violations.</p> <p>(4) for a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Secretary, including permanent disqualification, for knowingly submitting an application for the approval or reauthorization to accept and redeem coupons that contains false information about a substantive matter that was part of the application.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>for recipient households.</p> <p>Stipulates that the period of disqualification be:</p> <p>(1) for a <u>first violation</u> is not to exceed 5 years; and</p> <p>(2) for a <u>second violation</u> is not exceed 10 years.</p> <p><u>Permanent disqualification</u> rules and those governing applications with false information are not changed.</p> <p>Requires the Secretary, in consultation with USDA’s Inspector General, to establish procedures whereby participating food concerns may be immediately suspended for “flagrant violations,” pending administrative and judicial appeal. Unsettled benefit claims would be subject to forfeiture – or returned to</p>	<p>would be permitted to require bonds from food concerns disqualified for 180+ days (or subjected to a civil money penalty in lieu of a 180+ day disqualification). Bonds could be required for a period of not more than 5 years. Where a food concern has been sanctioned and commits a subsequent violation, the Secretary may require a collateral bond or irrevocable letter of credit regardless of the length of the disqualification period.</p>	

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T4-29	<p><u>Major Systems Failures</u></p> <p>Sec. 4018 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4301 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 13(b) of the FSA authorizes a State agency to collect overissuances of coupons by: (a) reducing a household’s allotment; (b) withholding amounts from unemployment compensation; (c) recovering from Federal pay or a Federal income tax refund; or (d) any other means. If a State agency demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that any of those means are not cost effective, those means are not to be used.</p> <p>In instances where a household received an overissuance of coupons, but all members of the household were eligible for benefits, the State agency is not to reduce the household’s monthly allotment in excess of the greater of: (a) 10 percent of the monthly allotment of the household; or \$10.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>the food concern if the disqualification action is not upheld (without interest).</p> <p>SEC. 4018. No changes are made to the methods by which a State agency is authorized to collect overissuances of coupons.</p> <p>The prohibition on the amount of the reduction in a household’s monthly allotment that a State agency is allowed to collect in the instance of an overissuance of coupons is continued.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 13(b) of the FSA, by providing the Secretary with the discretion to determine that a State agency has overissued benefits to a substantial number of households as the result of a “major systemic error” by the State.</p> <p>A State agency is given the option to appeal the Secretary’s determination. However, if the State agency fails to appeal the Secretary’s determination, or, in the case of an appeal, the State agency is still determined to be liable, the language requires the State agency to reimburse to the Secretary the amount for which the State agency is liable.</p> <p>The Secretary is authorized to prohibit, upon making a determination that over issuances have occurred, the State agency from collecting the over issuances from some or all of the affected households.</p>	<p>SEC. 4301. Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p>	

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T4-30	<p align="center"><u>Funding for Employment and Training Programs</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4019 of H.R. 2419, Sec.4304 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 16(h)(1) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to reserve funds for State agencies from appropriations made to carry out the Food Stamp Act for employment and training programs for food stamp recipients.</p> <p>Sec.16(h)(1)(A)(vii) authorizes a total of \$110 million to be reserved for each of the fiscal years 2002 through 2007 for employment and training programs for food stamp recipients.</p>	<p>SEC. 4019. No program changes.</p> <p>The funding level remains the same and is extended for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.</p>	<p>SEC. 4304. Amends Sec. 16(h)(1) to limit the time unspent unmatched federal funding for employment and training program expenses may remain available to 2 years (as opposed to until expended). Also rescinds unspent employment and training program funds for any fiscal year before FY2008.</p> <p>See also subsection (b) of SEC. 4801. Provides permanent authorization for funding of employment and training programs.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> P.L. 110-161 rescinds \$10.5 million in unused employment and training program funds.</p>	
T4-31	<p align="center"><u>Reductions in Payments for Administrative Costs</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4020 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 16(k) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to reduce payments for program administrative costs otherwise due to States to reflect payments they receive for administration under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program The Secretary's authority expires in fiscal year 2007.</p>	<p>SEC. 4020. Amends Sec. 16(k) to extend the requirement to reduce State administrative cost payments through FY2012.</p>	<p>See subsection (c) of SEC. 4801. Amends Sec. 16(k) to permanently extend the requirement to reduce State administrative cost payments.</p>	
T4-32	<p align="center"><u>Performance Standards for Bio-Metric Identification Technology</u></p> <p align="center">Sec. 4302 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4302. Amends Sec. 16 of the FSA to establish the conditions under which the Secretary may pay States the federal share (50%) of costs associated with the acquisition and use of biometric identification technology (e.g., fingerprints, retinal scans). In order to gain federal cost-sharing, States must provide a statistically valid and otherwise appropriate analysis of the cost effectiveness of using biometric identification technology to detect program fraud, demonstrate that the proposed technology is cost effective in reducing fraud and that no other fraud-detection methods are at least as cost-effective, and demonstrate that</p>	

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				the system will comply with privacy protection rules.	
T4-33	<p><u>Cash Payment Pilot Projects</u></p> <p>Sec. 4021 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p>	Sec. 17(b)(1)(B)(vi) of the FSA mandates that pilot projects operating since 1981 that involve cash payments to those households who are 65 years or older or entitled to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits are to be continued through Oct. 1, 2007, at the request of the State.	<p>SEC. 4021.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 17(b)(1)(B)(vi) by extending the authority for cash-payment pilot projects through Oct. 1, 2012.</p>	<p>See subsection (d) of SEC. 4801.</p> <p>Amends section 17(b)(1)(B)(vi) by permanently extending existing authority for cash-payment pilot projects to households whose members are 65 years or entitled to SSI benefits.</p>	
T4-34	<p><u>Findings of Congress Regarding Secure Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education</u></p> <p>Sec. 4022 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4407 of the Senate Amendment</p>	No comparable provision	<p>SEC. 4022.</p> <p>Contains Congressional findings regarding the Food Stamp Program noting that the Food Stamp Act “plays an essential role in improving the dietary and physical activity practices of low-income Americans, [by] helping to reduce food insecurity, prevent[ing] obesity, and reduc[ing] the risks of chronic disease.”</p> <p>The Secretary is encouraged to support the most effective interventions for nutrition education under the Food Stamp Act, including public health approaches and traditional education, to increase the likelihood that recipients and potential recipients of benefits under the SSNAP program choose diets and physical activity practices that are consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.</p>	<p>SEC. 4407.</p> <p>Same as the House bill with technical differences.</p>	
T4-35	<p><u>Eligibility Disqualification</u></p> <p>Sec. 4305 of the Senate Amendment</p>	No comparable provision.	No comparable provision.	<p>SEC. 4305.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 6 of the FSA to disqualify (for a period determined by the Secretary) persons found by a court or administrative agency to have intentionally obtained cash by misusing program benefits to obtain money for return of deposits on containers.</p> <p>Also amends Sec. 6 to disqualify (for a period determined by the Secretary) persons found by a court or administrative agency to have intentionally sold any food that was purchased</p>	

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				using program benefits.	
T4-36	<u>Definition of Staple Foods</u> Sec. 4401 of the Senate Amendment	Sec. 3 of the FSA defines “staple foods” to include (a) meat, poultry, or fish, (b) bread or cereals, (c) vegetables or fruits, and (d) dairy products. Staple foods do not include accessory food items such as coffee, tea, cocoa, carbonated and uncarbonated drinks, candy, condiments, and spices.	No comparable provision.	SEC. 4401. Amends Sec. 3 to (1) add dietary supplements to the list of accessory food items that are not classified as staple foods for the purpose of approving the participation of food concerns in the program, and (2) require the Secretary to issue regulations to ensure that adequate stocks of staple foods are available on a continuous basis in approved food concerns.	
T4-37	<u>Accessory Food Items</u> Sec. 4402 of the Senate Amendment	No comparable provision.	No comparable provision.	SEC. 4402. Amends Sec. 9 of the FSA to require that, within 1 year of enactment, the Secretary issue proposed regulations defining dietary supplements: multivitamin-mineral supplements providing prescribed minimum amounts of essential vitamins and minerals that do not exceed prescribed daily upper limits and certain prescribed amounts of folic acid or calcium. Final regulations as to dietary supplements must be issued within 2 years of enactment. No dietary supplements may be purchased with program benefits until the earlier of (1) the date of final regulations with regard to dietary supplements, or (2) the date the Secretary certifies a voluntary system of labeling for identification of eligible dietary supplements.	
T4-38	<u>Nutrition Education and Promotion Initiative to Address Obesity</u> Sec. 4023 of H.R.	No comparable provision	SEC. 4023. Amends Sec.17 of the Food Stamp Act by adding a new section that authorizes the Secretary to establish a demonstration program, to be known as the “Initiative to Address Obesity Among Low-Income Americans,” to develop and implement	SEC. 4403. Amends Sec. 17 to require and fund pilot projects to develop and test methods of using the Food and Nutrition program to improve the dietary and health status of participants and to reduce overweight, obesity, and associated co-morbidities. Among other	

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	<p>2419, Sec. 4403 of the Senate Amendment</p>		<p>strategies to reduce obesity among low-income Americans.</p> <p>The Secretary is authorized to enter into competitively awarded contracts, cooperative agreements, or grants, with public or private organizations or agencies.</p> <p>Agencies are required to submit applications to the Secretary, and the Secretary is to evaluate demonstration proposals using a variety of criteria, including: (1) identifying a low-income target audience that corresponds to individuals living with incomes at or below 185 percent of the poverty level; (2) incorporating scientifically-based strategies that are designed to improve diet quality through more healthful food purchases, preparation, or consumption; and (3) a commitment to a demonstration plan that allows for rigorous outcome evaluation, including data collection.</p> <p>Prohibits the use of funds for projects that limit the use of SSNAP program benefits. The Secretary is authorized to use funds to pay costs associated with monitoring, evaluating, and disseminating the Initiative’s finding.</p> <p>Authorizes an appropriation of \$10 million for fiscal years 2008 through 2012, but specifies that no new grants may be made after September 30, 2012.</p>	<p>initiatives, projects may include those providing increased program benefits, increased access to farmers’ markets, incentives to participating vendors to increase the availability of healthy foods, adding vendor approval requirements with respect to carrying healthy foods, point-of-purchase incentives to encourage program participants to buy fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods, and providing integrated communication and education programs (including school-based nutrition coordinators).</p> <p>These pilot health and nutrition promotion projects would include independent evaluations and annual reports on their status.</p> <p>Mandatory funding of \$50 million is provided, and up to \$25 million must be used for point-of-purchase incentive projects.</p>	
<p>T4-39</p>	<p><u>Hunger Free Communities</u></p> <p>Sec. 4405 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>No comparable provision.</p>	<p>SEC. 4405.</p> <p>Requires the Secretary to conduct and periodically update a study of major matters relating to hunger in the United States. The study would assess data on hunger and food insecurity and measures that have been carried out or could be carried out to achieve goals of reducing domestic hunger. It also</p>	

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				<p>would contain recommendations for removing obstacles to domestic hunger goals and otherwise reducing domestic hunger.</p> <p>Authorizes grants to food program service providers and local nonprofit organizations (like emergency feeding organizations) for the federal share (up to 80%) of projects that assess community hunger problems and meet, or develop new resources/programs to meet, goals for achieving hunger-free communities.</p> <p>Authorizes matching grants to emergency feeding organizations for infrastructure development.</p> <p>Appropriations of \$50 million a year (through FY2012) are authorized.</p>	
T4-40	<p><u>State Performance on Enrolling Children Receiving Program Benefits for Free School Meals</u></p> <p>Sec. 4406 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>	No comparable provision	No comparable provision	<p>SEC. 4406. Requires the Secretary to submit annual reports that assess the effectiveness and practices of each State in enrolling school-aged children in households receiving food stamp benefits for free school meals using “direct certification” (a current-law procedure allowing children in families receiving program benefits to be deemed automatically eligible for free school meals).</p>	
T4-41	<p><u>Authorization of Appropriations</u></p> <p>Sec. 4024 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p>	Sec. 18(a)(1) of the FSA authorizes an appropriation of such sums as necessary for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2007 to carry out the Food Stamp Act.	<p>SEC. 4024. Amends section 18(a)(1) by reauthorizing appropriations to carry out the FSA through 2012.</p>	<p>See subsection (e) of SEC. 4801. Amends section 18(a)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act by permanently reauthorizing appropriations to carry out the Act.</p>	
T4-42	<p><u>Consolidated Block Grants for Puerto</u></p>	Sec. 19(a) of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to provide funds to governmental entities in	<p>SEC. 4025. Amends section 19(a)(2)(A) of the FSA by</p>	<p>See subsection (f) of SEC. 4801.</p>	

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	<p><u>Rico and American Samoa</u></p> <p>Sec. 4025 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Puerto Rico and American Samoa to pay for expenditures associated with carrying out their nutrition assistance programs for needy persons.</p> <p>Sec. 19(a)(2) mandates funding in the amount of \$1.4 billion for fiscal year 2003 and \$1.4 billion for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2007, as adjusted by the percentage by which the Thrifty Food Plan has been adjusted between June 30, 2002, and June 30 of the immediately preceding year.</p>	<p>extending to 2012 the Secretary's authority to provide funds to Puerto Rico and American Samoa to administer their nutrition assistance programs.</p>	<p>Amends section 19(a)(2)(A)(ii) of the Food and Nutrition Act by permanently extending the Secretary's authority to provide funds to Puerto Rico and American Samoa to administer their nutrition assistance programs.</p>	
T4-43	<p><u>Study on Comparable Access to Secure Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits for Puerto Rico</u></p> <p>Sec. 4026 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4206 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4026. Amends Sec. 19 of the FSA by authorizing the Secretary to conduct a study on the feasibility of including Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the SNNAP program, in lieu of providing Puerto Rico with a block grant.</p> <p>The study is to include among other findings: a) an assessment of the administrative, financial, and other changes that would be required for Puerto Rico to establish a comparable S SNAP program; b) a discussion of the appropriate program rules under other sections of the FSA, such as benefit levels, income eligibility standards, and deduction levels for Puerto Rico to establish a comparable SSNAP program; c) an estimate of the impact on Federal and Commonwealth benefit and administrative costs; and d) an estimate on the impact of the SSNAP program on hunger and food insecurity among low-income Puerto Ricans.</p>	<p>SEC. 4206. Same as the House bill (with technical differences), but provides mandatory funding of \$1 million to conduct the study.</p>	
T4-44	<p><u>Reauthorization of Community Food Project Competitive Grants</u></p>	<p>Sec. 25 of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to make grants available to assist eligible non-profit agencies to establish and carry out community food projects, which are community-based projects that require a one-time infusion of Federal assistance to become self-sustaining and that are designed to—</p>	<p>SEC. 4027. Continues the Secretary's authority to make grants.</p>	<p>See subsection (g) of SEC. 4801.</p>	

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	<p>Sec. 4027 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>(1) meet the food needs of low-income people; (2) increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs; and (3) promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues;</p> <p>or meet specific State, local, or neighborhood food and agricultural needs, including needs for—</p> <p>(1) infrastructure improvement and development; (2) planning for long-term solutions; or (3) creation of innovative marketing activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA mandates that the total amount of funds to be provided for grants is not to exceed \$5 million a year through FY2007.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA mandates that, to be eligible to receive a grant, a private nonprofit entity must—</p> <p>(1) have experience in the area of community food work or job training and business development activities for food-related activities in low-income communities for agricultural producers.</p> <p>(2) demonstrate competency to implement a project, provide fiscal accountability, collect data, and prepare reports and other necessary documentation; and</p> <p>(3) demonstrate a willingness to share information with researchers, practitioners, and other interested parties.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA requires the Secretary to give preference, in selecting projects, to those that:</p> <p>(1) develop linkages between 2 or more</p>	<p>Amends Sec. 25 of the FSA by authorizing an appropriation of \$30 million a year through FY2012 for community food projects.</p> <p>No changes to the eligibility requirements.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 25 of the FSA by expanding the list of preferences for selecting community food projects to include projects that serve the special needs of:</p> <p>(1) emergency food service infrastructure;</p>	<p>Amends Section 25 of the Food and Nutrition Act to provide \$10 million a year in mandatory funding for community food projects, through FY2012.</p>	

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		<p>sectors of the food system; (2) support the development of entrepreneurial projects; (3) develop innovative linkages between the for-profit and non-profit food sectors; or (4) encourage long-term planning activities and stakeholder collaborations that build the long-term capacity of communities to address the food and agricultural problems of the communities, such as food policy councils and food planning associations.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA mandates that: (1) the Federal share of the cost of establishing or carrying out a community food project is not to exceed 50 percent of the cost of the project during the time of the grant; (2) the non-Federal share can be provided through a payment in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including facilities, equipment or services; and (3) the non-Federal share can be provided through State or local government or private sources.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA mandates that the term of a grant is not to exceed 3 years.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA authorizes the Secretary to offer to enter into a contract with, or make a grant to, one nongovernmental organization to coordinate with Federal agencies, States, political subdivisions, and non-governmental organizations to gather information and make recommendations for addressing common community problems.</p> <p>Sec. 25 of the FSA directs the Secretary to allocate \$200,000 a year of the funds made available under Sec. 25 for each of fiscal year</p>	<p>(2) retail access to underserved markets; (3) integration of urban and metro area food production in food project; and (4) technical assistance for youth, socially disadvantaged individuals, and limited resource groups.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 25 of the FSA to stipulate that the Federal share of the cost of establishing or carrying out a community food project is not to exceed 75 percent of the cost of the project during the time of the grant.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 25 of the FSA to increase the maximum term of a grant to 5 years.</p> <p>No changes to the Secretary's authority.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 25 of the FSA to require the Secretary to allocate, for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012, out of the funds made available to carry out community food</p>		

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		through 2007 to carry out the project grant for common community problems (noted above).	projects, \$500,000 for the project to address common community problems.		
T4-45	<p><u>Emergency Food Assistance Program</u></p> <p>Sec. 4028 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4110 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 27 of the FSA requires the Secretary to purchase, from the amounts made available under the Food Stamp Act for each of the fiscal years 2002 through 2007, \$140 million worth of a “variety of nutritious commodities” of the types that the Secretary has the authority to acquire through the Commodity Credit Corporation or under Section 32 of the Act entitled “An Act to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act, and for other purposes”, approved August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c). These commodities are distributed to needy persons through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).</p> <p>The Secretary is authorized, in purchasing commodities under this subsection, to the extent practicable, to make purchases based on: agricultural market conditions; the preferences and the needs of the States and the distributing agencies; and, the preferences of recipients.</p>	<p>SEC. 4028.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 27 of the FSA by increasing the TEFAP commodity purchase requirement. The Secretary is to purchase a total of \$250 million in commodities for FY2008; for FYs 2009-2012, the dollar amount is to be indexed annually for food-price inflation.</p>	<p>SEC. 4110.</p> <p>Substantially similar to the House bill with technical differences and <i>without</i> the requirement to index the base amount of \$250 million per year.</p>	
T4-46	<p><u>Authorization of Appropriations</u></p> <p>Sec. 4201 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4601 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 204(a) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act authorizes an appropriation of \$60 million a year through 2007 for direct and indirect costs to States related to the processing, storage, transporting, and distribution of commodities under TEFAP.</p>	<p>SEC. 4201.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 204(a) of the Emergency Assistance Act by increasing the authorization of appropriations to \$100 million a year, through FY2012.</p>	<p>See subsection (a) of Sec. 4802.</p> <p>Amends section 204(a) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act by permanently increasing the authorization of appropriations to \$100 million a year.</p> <p>See also Section 4601.</p> <p>Requires that State TEFAP agencies submit operation and administrative plans every 3 years (as opposed to every 4 years under current law) and makes clear that donated wild game may be distributed through TEFAP.</p>	

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T4-47	<p><u>Distribution of Commodities; Special Nutrition Projects</u></p> <p>Sec. 4202 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4801 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>	<p>Sec. 1114(a) of the Agriculture and Food Act (AFA) mandates that surplus commodities are to be made available, without charge or credit, to nutrition projects under the authority of the Older Americans Act, to child nutrition programs providing food service, and to food banks participating in special nutrition projects.</p> <p>Sec. 1114(a)(2)(A) of the AFA mandates that, through Sept. 20, 2007, whenever commodities are made available under any nutrition program administered by the Secretary, the Secretary is to encourage consumption of the commodities through agreements with private companies under which the commodities are reprocessed into end-food products by eligible recipient agencies. The expense of reprocessing the commodities is to be paid by the recipient agencies.</p>	<p>SEC. 4202. No changes are made to the mandate, with respect to surplus commodities.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 1114(a)(2)(A) of the AFA by extending, through FY2012, the requirement for the Secretary to encourage reprocessing agreements.</p>	<p>See subsection (d) of Sec. 4802. Same as House bill with technical differences.</p>	
T4-48	<p><u>Commodity Distribution Program</u></p> <p>Sec. 4203 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4602 and Sec. 4802 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Through FY2007, Sec. 4 (a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (ACPA) authorizes the Secretary to purchase and distribute agricultural commodities to maintain the “traditional level of assistance” for food assistance programs (including the Commodity Supplemental Food Program).</p> <p>Sec. 5 of the ACPA provides that, from funds made available to carry out the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2007, the Secretary is to provide to each State agency a “per assigned caseload slot” grant that is to be equal to the amount of its grant for the preceding fiscal year, adjusted by the percentage between for inflation.</p>	<p>SEC. 4203. Amends Sec. 4(a) of the ACPA by extending the Secretary’s authority through FY2012.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 5 of the ACPA by extending through FY2012 the ACPA requirement concerning inflation-indexed caseload slot grants.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 5(d)(2) to extend the requirement that the CCC furnish cheese and nonfat dry milk for the CSFP through FY2012.</p>	<p>See subsections (b) and (c) of SEC. 4802. Amends section 4(a) of the ACPA by permanently extending the Secretary’s authority to purchase and distribute agricultural commodities for food assistance programs (including the Commodity Supplemental Food Program).</p> <p>Permanently extends the ACPA requirement in Sec. 5 for inflation-indexed caseload slot grants.</p>	

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		<p>Sec. 5(d)(2) of the ACPA mandates that the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) is to, to the extent that its inventory levels permit, provide not less than 9 million pounds of cheese, and not less than 4 million pounds of nonfat dry milk a year through FY2007, to the Secretary, who is to use the cheese and nonfat dry milk to carry out the CSFP.</p> <p>Sec. 5(g) of the ACPA mandates that, should a local agency administering the CSFP program determine that its funding exceeds the level necessary to provide assistance to women, infants, and children, the agency, with the approval of the Secretary, may permit low-income elderly persons to participate in the program.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>Amends Sec. 5(g) of the ACPA by mandating that local agencies are to use funds made available under the CSFP to provide assistance to low-income elderly individuals, women, infants, and children in need for food assistance in accordance with any regulations the Secretary may prescribe. Also makes conforming amendments stipulating that CSFP benefits are available to low-income elderly individuals.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 5 of the ACPA by requiring the Secretary to establish maximum income eligibility standards for the CSFP that are the same for all applicants. The standards may not exceed the maximum income limits established for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (the WIC program) – i.e., 185% of the federal poverty income guidelines.</p>	<p>Subsection (c) of SEC. 4802 permits State to serve low-income elderly persons with income up to 185% of the federal poverty income guidelines, if the Secretary determines that annual appropriations have enabled every State seeking to participate in the CSFP to participate.</p> <p>See also SEC. 4602.</p> <p>Bars the Secretary from requiring any State or local CSFP program to prioritize assistance to a particular group of individuals that are low-income elderly persons or women, infants, and children.</p>	
T4-49	<p><u>Periodic Surveys of Foods Purchased by School Food Authorities</u></p> <p>Sec. 4901 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>	No comparable provision	No comparable provision.	<p>SEC. 4901.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 6 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require periodic nationally representative surveys of food purchased by schools participating in the school lunch program. Provides funding of \$3 million for each survey.</p>	
T4-50	<p><u>Healthy Food Education and Program Replicability</u></p>	Sec. 18(i) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act authorizes assistance, through competitive grants and technical aid, for projects that improve access to local foods in schools and institutions participating in child nutrition programs.	No comparable provision.	<p>SEC. 4903.</p> <p>Amends Section 18(i) to provide that sponsored projects may promote healthy food education and that the Secretary must give priority to projects that can be replicated in schools.</p>	

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	<p>Sec. 4903 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>			<p>Also authorizes a new pilot project (at \$10 million) in not more than 5 States under which grants are made to “high-poverty” schools for initiatives with hands-on gardening. No cost-sharing is required.</p>	
<p>T4-51</p>	<p><u>Purchase of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Distribution to Schools and Service Institutions</u></p> <p>Sec. 4301 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4907 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 10603 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 requires the Secretary to use not less than \$200 million a year to purchase fruits, vegetables, and certain other specialty food crops.</p> <p>Of this amount, the Secretary is required to use at least \$50 million a year to acquire fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution to schools and service institutions participating in programs under the Richard B. Russell National School Act.</p> <p>In carrying out this mandate, the Secretary is authorized to allow the Defense Department to act as the servicing agency for the procurement of fresh fruits and vegetables (the “DoD Fresh” Program).</p>	<p>SEC. 4301.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 10603 by increasing the dollar amount of fresh fruits, vegetables and other specialty foods the Secretary must procure for schools and service institutions participating in programs under the National School Lunch Act to at least \$50 million a year for each of the FYs 2008 and 2009 and \$75 million a year for each of the FYs 2010 through 2012. As under current law, these amounts may be spent through the DoD Fresh Program.</p>	<p>SEC. 4907.</p> <p>Provides that, in lieu of purchases required under Sec. 10603, the Secretary purchase fruits, vegetables, and nuts for use in domestic food assistance programs using Section 32 funds.</p> <p>Purchase amounts are set at: \$390 million for FY2008, \$393 million for FY2009, \$399 million for FY2010, \$403 million for FY2011, and \$406 million for FY2012 and each year thereafter.</p> <p>Items purchased may be in frozen, canned, dried, or fresh form.</p> <p>Allows the Secretary to offer value-added products containing fruits, vegetables or nuts after taking into consideration whether demand exists for the value-added product and the interest of entities that receive fruits, vegetables and nuts under this program.</p>	
<p>T4-52</p>	<p><u>Buy American Requirements</u></p> <p>Sec. 4302 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4906 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4302.</p> <p>Includes Congressional findings that:</p> <p>(1) Federal law requires that commodities and products purchased with Federal funds be, to the extent practicable, of domestic origin;</p> <p>(2) Federal Buy American statutory requirements seek to ensure that purchases made with Federal funds benefit domestic producers; and</p>	<p>SEC. 4906.</p> <p>Same as the House bill, with technical differences.</p>	

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			(3) The School Lunch Act requires the use of domestic food products for all meals served under the program, including food products purchased with local funds.		
T4-53	<p><u>Expansion of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program</u></p> <p>Sec. 4303 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4904 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>	<p>Sec. 18(g) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) requires the Secretary to carry out a pilot program to make free fresh fruits and vegetables available in a limited number of elementary and secondary schools in 8 States and on 3 Indian reservations.</p> <p>[Appropriations laws have expanded this requirement to include elementary and secondary schools in a total of 14 States and 3 Indian Reservations, with funding totaling \$15 million. Most recently, P.L. 110-161 appropriated \$9.9 million, in addition to the \$9 million required to be spent under Sec. 18(g), to expand the program to nationwide].</p> <p>Sec. 18(g) also requires the Secretary, in selecting schools to participate in the program, to:</p> <p>(i) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the majority of schools selected are those in which not less than 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced priced meal;</p> <p>(ii) solicit application from interested schools that include—(I) information pertaining to the percentage of students enrolled in the school who are eligible for free or reduced priced lunches; (II) a certification of support for participation in the program signed by the school food manager, school principal, and district superintendent (or equivalent position, as determined by the school); and (III) any other information requested by the Secretary;</p> <p>(iii) determine, for each application received, whether the application is from a school in</p>	<p>SEC. 4303.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 18(g) by expanding the fresh fruit and vegetable program in elementary and secondary schools. Mandatory funding would be increased from \$9 million to \$70 million a year, and the program would be available nationwide in:</p> <p>(A) 35 elementary and secondary schools in each State; and</p> <p>(B) additional elementary and secondary schools in each State in proportion to the student population of the State.</p>	<p>SEC. 4904.</p> <p>Replaces the current fresh fruit and vegetable program, beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. The new program would provide mandatory funding (\$225 million in the first year, indexed for inflation in later years) and authorize additional appropriations for a program to make free fresh fruits and vegetables available in participating elementary schools nationwide.</p> <p>Participating elementary schools would be selected by States with priority generally given to schools with the highest proportion of children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals, those that partner with entities that provide non-federal resources, and those that evidence efforts to integrate the program with other efforts to promote sound health and nutrition, reduce overweight and obesity, or promote physical activity.</p> <p>Funding would be allocated among States under a formula distributing roughly half of the funds equally among States and apportioning the remainder based on State population. At least 100 schools chosen to participate must be operated on Indian reservations. Per-student grants would be determined by the State but could not be less than \$50, or more than \$75, annually.</p> <p>An evaluation is required and provided funding of \$3 million to remain available until expended.</p>	

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		<p>which not less than 50 percent of students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. (iv) give priority to schools that submit a plan for implementation of the program that includes a partnership with one or more entities that provide non-Federal resources (including entities representing the fruit and vegetable industry) for the acquisition, handling, promotion, or distribution of fresh and dried fruits and vegetables, or other support.</p> <p>Sec. 18(g) further requires the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, to submit reports to Congress describing the activities carried out under the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. A final report is to be submitted not later than Dec. 31, 2008.</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p> <p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>Changes the final report's due date to December 31, 2012.</p> <p>The Secretary is authorized, in selecting schools to participate in the program, to encourage plans for implementation that include locally grown foods.</p> <p>The Secretary is required to establish requirements to be followed by States in administering the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program—the initial set of requirements must be established not later than 1 year after the enactment.</p> <p>The Secretary is allowed to reserve up to 1% of program funding for administrative expenses related to the program. States may use up to 5% of program funding for administrative expenses.</p>		
T4-54	<p><u>Purchases of Locally Produced Foods</u></p> <p>Sec. 4304 of H.R.</p>	<p>Sec. 9(j) of the NSLA requires the Secretary to: (A) encourage institutions participating in the school meal programs to purchase locally produced foods to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate;</p>	<p>SEC.4304. Amends Sec. 9(j) of NSLA by authorizing the Secretary to: (1) encourage institutions that receive funds under the School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act to purchase, to the maximum</p>	<p>SEC. 4902. Same as the House bill, except that Senate bill pertains to locally produced fruits and vegetables.</p>	

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	<p>2419, Sec. 4902 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>	<p>(B) advise participating institutions of the locally produced food policy, including posting information on a website maintained by the Secretary; and</p> <p>(C) provide startup grants to not more than 200 institutions to defray the initial costs of equipment, materials, storage facilities, and similar costs, incurred in carrying out the locally produced food policy.</p> <p>Appropriations of \$400,000 a year through FY2009 are authorized to carry out the provisions of Sec. 9(j).</p>	<p>extent practicable and appropriate, locally produced foods;</p> <p>(2) advise institutions about the policy related to purchasing locally produced foods and post information related to this policy on the website maintained by the Secretary; and</p> <p>(3) allow institutions receiving funds under the NSLA and the Child Nutrition Act, including the Department of Defense Fruit and Vegetable Program, to use geographic preference in their procurement of locally produced foods.</p>		
T4-55	<p><u>Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program</u></p> <p>Sec. 4401 of H.R. 2419, Sec.4701 and Sec. 4702 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 4402(a) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 provides a mandatory appropriation of \$15 million a year through FY2007 to carry out and expand a Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.</p> <p>Sec. 4402(b) of the Act mandates that the program is to:</p> <p>(1) provide fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs to low-income seniors;</p> <p>(2) increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs; and</p> <p>(3) develop or aid in the development of new and additional farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture program.</p>	<p>SEC. 4401.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 by: (1) extending mandatory funding for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (at \$15 million a year) through FY2012 and (2) authorizing additional appropriations of \$20 million for FY2008, \$30 million for FY2009, \$45 million for FY2010, \$60 million for FY 2011, and \$75 million for FY2012.</p> <p>Sec.(b)(1) is amended to add honey to the list of items to be covered by program vouchers.</p>	<p>SEC. 4701 & 4702.</p> <p>Amend Sec. 4402 by permanently extending mandatory funding for the senior farmers' market nutrition program (at \$15 million a year). Mandates additional funding of \$10 million a year.</p>	

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		No comparable provision	The value of benefits provided to eligible Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program recipients is prohibited from being considered income or resources for any purposes under any Federal, State or local law. States and local governments are also prohibited from collecting taxes on food purchased with vouchers distributed under the program.	Provisions regarding the treatment of senior farmers' market nutrition program benefits are the same as in the House bill.	
T4-56	<p><u>Congressional Hunger Center</u></p> <p>Sec. 4402 of H.R. 2419, Sec. 4404 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p>Sec. 4404 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 authorizes a Congressional Hunger Fellows Program as an independent entity of the legislative branch of the U.S. Government.</p> <p>The program seeks to: encourage future leaders of the United States to pursue careers in humanitarian and public service; recognize the needs of low-income individuals; and provide assistance to people in need.</p> <p>The program is to operate two fellowships: (1) The Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program ("Emerson Fellowships"), which addresses hunger and other humanitarian needs in U.S.; and (2) The Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program ("Leland Fellowships"), which addresses international hunger and other humanitarian needs.</p> <p>A trust fund is established in the U.S. Treasury, which is to contain amounts appropriated for the fellow programs, amounts credited to the fund as the result from the sale or redemption of obligations held in the fund, and gifts made to the fellowship programs.</p> <p>A board is to appoint an executive director</p>	<p>SEC.4402.</p> <p>Amends Sec. 4404 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 with provisions similar to those contained in current law. Provisions in this section differ from those in current law by authorizing annual appropriations of \$3 million a year--through FY2012— and by specifically naming the Congressional Hunger Center as the administering entity for Emerson and Leland fellowships.</p>	<p>SEC. 4404.</p> <p>Same as the House bill, with technical differences and:</p> <p>(1) Issuance of a grant from USDA to the Congressional Hunger Center to administer the program (as opposed to a contract in the House bill).</p> <p>(2) An appropriations authorization set at "such sums as are necessary."</p>	

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		<p>who is to administer the fellowship programs and carry out any other functions that the board may prescribe.</p> <p>An appropriation of \$18 million is authorized to fund the fellowship programs' trust fund.</p>			
T4-57	<p><u>Joint Nutrition Monitoring</u></p> <p>Sec. 4403 of H.R. 2419.</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>SEC. 4403. Amends Subtitle D of Title IV of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of by authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture, along with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to continue to provide jointly for national nutrition monitoring and related research activities.</p> <p>Among other duties, the two Secretaries are required to: a) collect continuous dietary, health, physical activity, and diet and health knowledge data on a nationally representative sample; b) periodically collect data on special at-risk populations as identified by the Secretaries; c) distribute information on health, nutrition, the environment, and physical activity to the public in a timely fashion; d) analyze new data that becomes available; e) continuously update food composition tables; and f) research and develop data collection methods and standards.</p>	<p>See Sec. 7501. Same as the House bill, with technical differences. Freestanding provision.</p>	
T4-58	<p><u>Team Nutrition Network</u></p> <p>Sec. 4905 of the Senate Amendment</p> <p>ED/LABOR</p>	<p>Sec. 19 of the Child Nutrition Act authorizes funding for nutrition education initiatives for schoolchildren through a "Team Nutrition Network."</p>	<p>No comparable provision.</p>	<p>SEC. 4905. Provides mandatory funding for Team Nutrition Network activities -- \$3 million a year through FY2012.</p>	
T4-59	<p><u>Agricultural Policy and Public Health</u></p> <p>Sec. 4908 of the</p>	<p>No comparable provision</p>	<p>No comparable provision.</p>	<p>SEC. 4908. Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to assess whether the agricultural policies of the U.S. have an</p>	

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	Senate Amendment			impact on health, nutrition, overweight and obesity, and diet-related chronic disease.	
T4-60	<u>Sense of the Congress</u> Sec. 4404 of H.R. 2419.	No comparable provision	SEC. 4404. Expresses the sense of Congress that food items provided pursuant to the Federal School Meal Program should be selected so as to reduce the incidence of juvenile diabetes and to maximize nutritional value.	No comparable provision.	
T4-61	<u>Grain Pilot Program</u> Sec. 4912 of the Senate Amendment ED/LABOR	No comparable provision	No comparable provision.	SEC. 4912. Amends the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a pilot project to provide grain products in selected elementary and secondary schools. Funding of \$4 million is provided – to be supplied from funds available for the senior farmers’ market nutrition program and community food projects.	
T4-62	<u>Report on Federal Hunger Programs</u> Sec. 4913 of the Senate Amendment	No comparable provision	No comparable provision.	SEC. 4913. Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report that surveys all federal programs that seek to alleviate hunger or food insecurity or improve nutritional intake.	
T4-63	<u>Food Employment Empowerment and Development Program</u> Sec. 4914 of the Senate Amendment	No comparable provision	No comparable provision.	SEC. 4914. Authorizes a “food employment empowerment and development” program under which grants would be made to encourage the effective use of community resources to combat hunger and the causes of hunger through food recovery and job training initiatives.	
T4-64	<u>Infrastructure and Transportation Grants to Support Rural Food Bank Delivery of Perishable Foods</u> Sec. 4915 of the Senate Amendment	No comparable provision	No comparable provision.	SEC. 4915. Authorizes competitive grants – totaling \$10 million a year through FY2012 – to expand the capacity and infrastructure of food banks to improve their ability to handle “time-sensitive” (perishable) food products, to improve identification of potential providers of donated food, and to support the procurement of locally-produced food from	

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T4-65	<p><u>Reauthorization and Application</u></p> <p>Sec. 4801, Sec. 4802, Sec. 4803, Sec. 4910, and Sec. 4911 of the Senate Amendment</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> Appropriations authorizations and other authorities for programs covered by the Nutrition title generally expired September 30, 2007. However, continuing appropriations and P.L. 110-161 have effectively extended all expiring authorities.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> The House bill extends the various expiring authorities through FY2012 in Sections 4016, 4019, 4020, 4021, 4024, 4025, 4027, 4028, 4201, 4202, and 4203 – except for the appropriations authorization for the nutrition information and awareness program established by Section 4403 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.</p>	<p>small and family farms and ranches.</p> <p>SEC. 4801, SEC. 4802 & SEC. 4803. Extend most expiring authorities indefinitely. Community food projects, authority in Sec. 1114(a)(2) of the AFA, and the nutrition information and awareness program are extended through FY2012.</p> <p>SEC. 4910. Stipulates that, except as otherwise provided, the amendments made in the Nutrition title take effect April 1, 2008. Provides that States may implement amendments made in Sections 4101 through 4110 beginning on a date determined by the State during the period between April 1 and October 1, 2008. States are given the option to implement amendments made by Sections 4103 and 4104 for a certification period that begins not earlier than an implementation date between April 1 and October 1, 2008 (as determined by the State).</p> <p>SEC. 4911. Provides that the amendments made in Sections 4101-4104, 4107-4109, 4110(a)(2), 4208, 4701(a)(3), 4801(g), and 4903 terminate September 30, 2012.</p>	
T4-66	<p><u>Study on Purchases of Food with Program Benefits</u></p>	<p>No comparable provision.</p>	<p>No comparable provision.</p>	<p>Language taken from SEC. 4202 Requires GAO to conduct a study of the effects of a rule requiring that food stamp benefits only be used to purchase food included in the most recent thrifty food plan market basket.</p>	